MISSOURI OVERVIEW FASTEST GROWING OCCUPATIONS 2023-2025

Missouri employment is projected to increase 2.3 percent between 2023 and 2025, for a net change of more than 71,500 jobs. The growth rate is the difference between projected employment and estimated employment divided by estimated employment. Of the top 20 occupations in the state with the fastest growth rate, eight are in *Food Preparation and Serving Related Occupations* group. Average wage for all occupations in 2022 was \$54,520 in Missouri.

FASTEST GROWING OCCUPATIONS						
Occupation	2023 Estimated Employment	2025 Projected Employment	Net Increase	Percent Growth	Total Annual Openings	Average Annual Wage
Cooks, Restaurant	34,073	38,018	3,945	11.6%	7,369	\$33,116
Nurse Practitioners	9,344	10,269	925	9.9%	896	\$120,888
Data Scientists	4,251	4,595	344	8.1%	433	\$87,435
Medical and Health Services Managers	10,159	10,962	803	7.9%	1,133	\$117,305
First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation and Serving Workers	23,599	25,439	1,840	7.8%	4,502	\$40,538
Dining Room and Cafeteria Attendants and Bartender Helpers	10,794	11,608	814	7.5%	2,489	\$29,947
Hosts and Hostesses, Restaurant, Lounge, and Coffee Shop	6,504	6,992	488	7.5%	1,940	\$28,862
Bartenders	12,259	13,167	908	7.4%	2,626	\$35,264
Entertainment And Recreation Managers, Except Gambling	533	572	39	7.3%	78	\$76,615
Dancers	412	442	30	7.3%	81	N/A
Physician Assistants	1,464	1,569	105	7.2%	128	\$119,211
Fast Food and Counter Workers	39,065	41,809	2,744	7.0%	10,604	\$29,088
Medical Equipment Repairers	1,620	1,733	113	7.0%	208	\$73,190
Information Security Analysts	3,475	3,710	235	6.8%	328	\$94,837
Occupational Therapy Assistants	947	1,011	64	6.8%	166	\$69,658
Locker Room, Coatroom, and Dressing Room Attendants	1,292	1,379	87	6.7%	418	\$28,497
Physical Therapist Assistants	2,543	2,713	170	6.7%	442	\$69,411
Exercise Trainers and Group Fitness Instructors	5,521	5,890	369	6.7%	1,230	\$41,806
Waiters and Waitresses	45,103	48,046	2,943	6.5%	11,107	\$35,833
Chefs and Head Cooks	1,794	1,908	114	6.4%	275	\$59,518



Occupations with fewer than 50 annual openings are omitted.

Sources: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS), 2022. Occupational projections developed by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC).

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